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169CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY French Indo China - China

DATE: 25X1X

SUBJECT Article in French Shanghai Publication Regarding  
Indo China  
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INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 6 March 1947

PAGES 1

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN  
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CPYRGHT

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1. An article appeared in the 1 March edition of the COURRIER DE CHINE, a French weekly published in Shanghai which appears to have the "blessing" of the French Consulate there. The article is summarized as follows:

"HO Chi Minh's government is now without great influence since the NewsTonkinese delta has been largely pacified by the French, and this was the only area in which HO's government ever exercised influence.

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"This fact has been observed by Annamite circles and they have been suggesting the possible candidacy of ex-Emperor Bao Dai for the presidency of Indo China. They point out that he would be the best mediator and would include in his government separate prime ministers for each of the states of Indo China, e.g., HO Chi Minh in Tonkin, Dr. HOACH in Cochinchina, etc. It remains to be seen what view the French would take of this proposal, as the French recall Bao Dai's activities during the war at the time the Japanese committed their worst atrocities against the French."

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. IN

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 2/4/78 By: 022

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Next Review Date: 2000

DOCUMENT NO. 2

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CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C

NEXT REVIEW DATE: 1/10/79

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE: 1/10/79 REVIEWER: 029804

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